

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Behavioral Health	(2) MEETING DATE 3/18/2014	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Cindy Collins, ASM, 788-2932 Amy Olson, ASO II, 781-4729	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve a new FY 2013-14 contract with Bayfront Youth and Family Services in the amount not to exceed \$613,173 with one group home facility to provide residential board and care and social support services for youth and adolescents with severe emotional and mental health issues. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve and direct Chairperson to a new FY 2013-14 contract with Bayfront Youth and Family Services in the amount not to exceed \$613,173 to provide residential board and care and social support services for children with severe emotional and mental health issues.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Medi-Cal, Realignment	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$613,173.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$613,173.00	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) 19001383		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Reviewed by Leslie Brown			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts -			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeff Hamm, Health Agency Director
Anne Robin, LMFT, Behavioral Health Administrator

DATE: 3/18/2014

SUBJECT: Request to approve a new FY 2013-14 contract with Bayfront Youth and Family Services in the amount not to exceed \$613,173 with one group home facility to provide residential board and care and social support services for youth and adolescents with severe emotional and mental health issues. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve and direct Chairperson to a new FY 2013-14 contract with Bayfront Youth and Family Services in the amount not to exceed \$613,173 to provide residential board and care and social support services for children with severe emotional and mental health issues.

DISCUSSION

The Health Agency's Behavioral Health Department is responsible for providing mental health services to youth who have been placed in a sub-acute residential treatment facility and group homes by the following agencies.

- 1) Department of Social Services (DSS);
- 2) Probation Department;
- 3) School Districts, as part of an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

These youth typically have severe emotional problems that can result in behavioral disorders that compromise their ability to function successfully in the community and hinder educational progress. In some cases, these behaviors lead to involvement with the criminal justice system. Many of these youth have been unsuccessful in an outpatient treatment setting and have failed in multiple foster home placements before being placed in a group home or residential treatment facility.

All group homes and residential treatment facilities are licensed and monitored by the State. The group homes and residential treatment facilities included in this Board item are classified as Level 14 facilities, the most intense level of care classified by the State. Each facility offers a safe, secure setting for youth, while providing specialized services to enhance life skills, promote behavioral management skills, and address negative impacts regarding educational progress. Group homes and residential treatment facilities generally serve youth who need longer-term care than is available in an acute care hospital setting and less care than a more intensive and more expensive placement in a state hospital.

The Behavioral Health Department is responsible for the cost of providing day treatment services to youth residing in group home facilities. Day treatment services provide the mental health treatment component of the residential program. Day treatments are a minimum of five days per week. Each session will be a minimum of three continuous hours per day. Typical mental health services provided as part of a day treatment include:

- Group interactions providing support, feedback and guidance to help youth build skills in problem solving and problem identification that will lead to integration back into their community.
- Adjunctive therapies in which clients utilize other forms of self-expression, such as art therapy to enhance self-esteem.

- A behavioral management system that utilizes points and levels to evaluate progress and provides immediate feedback to the youth in order to meet treatment goals.
- Psychotherapy, if the program is of the intensive type.

In addition to day treatment services, group homes and residential treatment facilities provide other mental health services that are prescribed as part of the youth's treatment plan. These services may include case management, medication support, crisis intervention or therapeutic behavioral services. These services provide behavior modeling, structure and support, and immediate, one-to-one interventions that assist the youth in engaging in appropriate activities, minimizing impulsivity and increasing social competencies.

Since there are no Level 14 group homes in this county, the Behavioral Health Services staff, in collaboration with the Probation Department, Department of Social Services (DSS) and local school districts, make every attempt to place youth in facilities as close to San Luis Obispo County as possible. Each group home has a limited number of openings, so the County contracts with multiple facilities to ensure that placement options are available when needed. In addition to bed availability, staff considers a number of important factors when deciding on the most appropriate placement for each youth. Specialty programs range from services geared to young children to services targeting teens needing vocational skill building. Each facility must also meet credentialing requirements for each type of service provided and are continuously re-evaluated on their performance.

On July 9, 2013, your Board approved contracts with seven other group homes: Casa Pacific Centers for Children and Families, Inc., Edgewood Center for Children, FamiliesFirst, Inc., Milhous Children's Center, Odd Fellow Rebekah Children's Home of California, TLC Child & Family Services, and Victor Treatment Centers, Inc. There is a particular youth client who requires specialized placement and services based on age and failed previous placements that cannot be met by the existing contracted facilities. Bayfront Youth and Family Services meets the requirements and has space available.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract as to form and legal effect.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The FY 2013-14 Behavioral Health Adopted Budget includes \$613,173 for group homes and residential treatment facilities, a decrease of \$159,810 from the FY 2012-13 budget of \$772,983. During FY 2012-13, fewer client days were utilized than budgeted due to moving two clients to lower levels of care during the year and fewer new clients moving to higher levels of care. The budget estimate for FY 2013-14 was based on a reduction in the cost of providing additional mental health services and fewer clients in need of Level 14 residential care.

The contract amount for each provider is set at \$613,173 which is the entire budget for all Behavioral Health group homes and residential treatment facilities serving youth and adolescents. However, the County will only compensate each provider for the actual services provided. By setting the contract value for each provider at the maximum dollar amount, the Department gains the flexibility to utilize a pool of providers during the year based on the needs and requirements of each client.

RESULTS

The goals of each group home are to achieve the following:

- 80% of residential youth clients will avoid acute hospitalization
- 85% of residential youth clients will attend and participate in school activities for at least 95% of the established school day

During FY 2012-13 the Department was successful in moving two clients out of group homes and into lower levels of care within the community. Fiscal year 2013 has seen the RCL-14 group home population increase by two, to a total of eight clients, but then decreased by three to a total of five clients at the end of February 2014. These three clients were either moved to lower levels of care in the community or moved to live with family. No clients have been hospitalized, and all clients have met the minimum school participation. All of these clients and their families will continue to receive support from organizations partnered with the County.

The Behavioral Health Department strives to serve clients in the least restrictive settings as possible and supports a continuum of care appropriate for clients at all treatment levels. Organizations that are partnered to continue this strategy in FY 2013-14 include: Kinship Center, which provides specialty services for youth and their relative caregivers/foster

parents; Martha's Place, the Children's Assessment Center, which offers early assessments and treatment for children with prenatal drug exposure; the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) programs for Youth and Transitional age Youth, which provide intensive wraparound services to high-risk youth in the community; Child Development Center, to provide behavior modeling, structure and support services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries of low income families; and continued collaboration with the County Office of Education to offer enhanced services to students in special education classes.

These various programs are designed to increase support for youth and families and provide a network of care to allow more youth to remain in the community. It is desired that the availability of this expanded network of care will reduce the number of group home and residential treatment facility placements. A number of more severely disturbed youth will continue to need the highly structured environment that is offered by a group home or residential treatment facility to assure their safety and well-being. Outpatient services will remain available to youth when they graduate from the residential program and return home.

The Behavioral Health Department seeks to provide clients the appropriate level of care by matching treatment services, including residential placements, to clients' individual needs. The above mentioned contract provides the necessary resources to assure that the appropriate level of care is available for the youth in need of residential treatment services. Providing the most appropriate services to these clients increases their probability of positive treatment outcomes. Furthermore, positive treatment outcomes contribute to the wider County vision of a healthy and safe community.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Bayfront Contract FY 2013-14